



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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**For Immediate Release
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John A. Holland, Jr., M.D., named Director of Southside Virginia Training Center

Richmond—James S. Reinhard, M.D., Acting Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, announced today that John A. Holland, Jr., M.D., has been selected to be the Director of the Southside Virginia Training Center (SVTC) in Petersburg. The Training Center provides residential services, including active treatment and training, to 400 people with mental retardation. It is the second largest training center in the Commonwealth.

“John is a trusted colleague and clinician. He has proven to be an excellent manager and medical administrator through his leadership of the facility over the past eight months,” said Dr. Reinhard. “In recent years with the expansion of community alternatives for people with mental retardation, the residents of training centers, for the most part, are people who are increasingly medically fragile and who are aging. This population requires the leadership of a strong administrator, as well as someone with the clinical knowledge and skills to ensure an appropriate level of care,” continued Dr. Reinhard.

Dr. Holland completed his residency in family medicine at the Eastern Virginia Medical School, in Norfolk, Virginia, in 1989. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians. Dr. Holland has served as Acting Director of SVTC since June, 2001, when the former director retired. Prior to that, Dr. Holland was Director of Health and Client Services at SVTC (October, 2000—June, 2001). He also served as Medical Director and Staff Physician, beginning his tenure at the facility in 1999. From 1997 to 1999, Dr. Holland was a staff physician at the Hiram Davis Medical Center which shares the Petersburg campus with SVTC. He has an extensive career in medicine, including private family practice in Emporia, Virginia and in North Carolina, President of the Medical Staff at Greensville Memorial Hospital in Emporia, and Medical Director at three state correctional facilities.

In 1974 he was awarded the Martin Luther King Award for community service at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1981, he received the North Carolina Governor’s Award for outstanding individual community volunteerism.

Dr. Holland is a member of the Virginia Academy of Family Physicians, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the Southside Virginia Medical Society, the American Medical Directors Association, and the American College of Physician Executives. He is licensed to practice medicine in Virginia and North Carolina.

He resides in Chester, Virginia with his wife, Cheryl. He volunteers regularly with the Surry Area Free Medical Clinic.